



PC L 27-14 BIAFRA-
Department of State **TELEGRAM** NIGERIA
32

CONFIDENTIAL 831

PAGE 01 LONDON 11146 251232Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, SR 01, ORM 03, IO 13, SA 01, NSA 02, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04,
H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, AID 28,
PC 04, RSR 01, 148 W

R 251210Z JUL 68
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5030
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY KAMPALA UNN

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 11146

SUBJECT: NIGERIA: COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT STANDING BY

REF: LONDON'S 10939 (NOTAL)

COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT'S HENSLEY AND ASTON INFORM US THAT
WITH OAU INITIATIVE IN NIAMEY APPARENTLY SHOWING RESULTS, CS IS
HOLDING OFF ANY PEACE INITIATIVES OF ITS OWN. ARNOLD SMITH
CANCELLED HIS PLANS TO RETURN LONDON, (REFTEL) WHEN NEWS
BROKE OF OJUKWU'S TRIP TO NIAMEY. HE EXPECTS REMAIN ON
LEAVE IN FRANCE THROUGH JULY. SINCE DEPUTY SYG ADU ALSO ON
LEAVE, CS IS ON AUTOMATIC PILOT FOR TIME BEING. ASTON AND
HENSLEY ARE OF COURSE KEENLY INTERESTED IN PROGRESS BEING MADE
BY OAU AND BRITISH AND OURSELVES ARE TRYING TO KEEP THEM UP-
TO-DATE ON BASIS EMB NIAMEY'S REPORTS.

BRUCE

CONFIDENTIAL

0308

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VMD 950503
By MN NARA Date 10/5/05

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

UNCLASSIFIED

Classification

POL 27-14 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

201643

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24 JUL 68 00 14Z

Origin

ACTION: AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY

Info:

INFO: AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMCONSUL IBADAN
AMCONSUL KADUNA
CINCSRIKE

STATE

SUBJ: NIGERIA PRESS SUMMARY - July 23, 1968

1. Al Friendly (Wash Post) reports from Owerri that a cease-fire in the Ojukwu making was strongly hinted last night by ~~Ojukwu~~ who said QUOTE judging from the way the conference is moving, we shall have if not ~~xxx~~ permanent peace then at least temporary peace UNQUOTE According to Ojukwu Friendly, ~~Ojukwu~~ expected the Addis talks to begin in less than a week but stipulated that his appearance was QUOTE dependent on a temporary ceasefire or truce UNQUOTE, avoiding, however, to say whether this was Ojukwu's an absolute prerequisite. Friendly reports that ~~Ojukwu~~ confidence is QUOTE difficult to explain unless he has already received some firm assurances or reports of agreement from Niamey. UNQUOTE According to Friendly, ~~Ojukwu~~ Ojukwu / ~~Friendly, Ojukwu~~ forecast a prompt and large increase in airlifted food and relief supplies but repeated his accusation that the British were pressuring Gowon to block the peace talks and to QUOTE smash through and

Drafted by:

AF/P, ~~Realtier~~:kmd 7/23

Tel. Ext.

Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by:

~~AF/P, Realtier~~ *Rm*
AF:AFW:Roy M. Melbourne

Clearances:

Nigeria Task Force

UNCLASSIFIED

Classification

FORM 8-65 DS-322

0309

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Authority VMD 950503
By MNARA Date 10/5/01

Page 2 of telegram to AMEMBASSY LAGOS AND INFO ADDRESSEES

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find a military solution. UNQUOTE Shorter AP story reporting ^{Ojukwu's} ~~Ojukwu's~~ QUOTE optimism about chances for a temporary truce UNQUOTE also carried by other papers, including BALTIMORE SUN.

2. NEW YORK TIMES story out of London reports George Thomson announcement to Commons of ICRC proposal to take exclusive control of Biafran airstrip to fly in supplies, avoiding Biafran objections to food handling by FMG and FMG fears that arms would accompany relief flights.

Mr. Thomson, reporting on Lord Hunt's exploratory mission, also said that a land corridor was the most effective relief method. QUOTE Goods can start to flow as soon as Colonel ^{Ojukwu} ~~Ojukwu~~ says the word UNQUOTE Mr. Thomson is quoted as saying in reference to proposed land route.

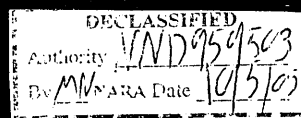
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RUSK!

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Pol 27-14 BIAFRA-NIGERIA



Department of State TELEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL 502

PAGE 01 PARIS 18381 231710Z

51

ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, SR 01, ORM 03, AID 28, PC 04, ACDA 16, CIAE 00, DODE 00,

GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20,

USIA 12, SA 01, RSR 01, /162 W

P 231609Z JUL 68
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4489
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
RUTAND/AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 247
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 18381

SUBJ: NIGERIAN PEACE NEGOTIATIONS

1. QUAI DESK OFFICER FOR NIGERIA (PIERRET - PLEASE PROTECT) GAVE EMBOFF EVENING JULY 22 BRIEF SUMMARY OF FIRST MEETING IN ABIDJAN BETWEEN PRESIDENT HOUPHOUET AND BIAFRAN HIGH COMMAND COMPRISING OJUKWU, AZIKIWE, OKPARA AND MBANEFO. MOST INTERESTING THING ABOUT MEETING, ACCORDING TO PIERRET, WAS OJUKWU-AZIKIWE RELATIONSHIP IN WHICH FORMER OFTEN TURNED TO ASK ADVICE OF LATTER. BIAFRAN POSITION ESSENTIALLY SAME AS THAT LATER EXPRESSED IN OJUKWU COMMUNIQUE ISSUED IN LIBREVILLE (LIBREVILLE 1542). BIAFRANS REJECT OAU COMMITTEE RESOLUTION OF JULY 18, BUT ACCEPT FIRST RESOLUTION OF JULY 19 (THAT CONCERNING MEETING AT ADDIS UNDER OAU AUSPICES), AND NEITHER ACCEPT NOR REJECT SECOND OAU RESOLUTION OF JULY 19. PIERRET POINTED OUT THAT THIS SECOND RESOLUTION OF JULY 19 CONTAINS MOST OF ELEMENTS IN JULY 18 RESOLUTION, INCLUDING REFERENCE TO PRESERVING INTEGRITY OF NIGERIA AND NO MENTION OF BIAFRA. QUAI INTERPRETS OJUKWU'S SILENCE ON THIS RESOLUTION, IN LIGHT OF WHAT HE TOLD HOUPHOUET, AS INDICATING BIAFRAN DELEGATION WILL BE PREPARED DISCUSS THIS RE-

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By MVA Date 10/5/05

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7-23-68



Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 02 PARIS 18381 231710Z

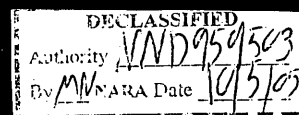
SOLUTION AT ADDIS MEETING. PIERRET SAID THERE WAS SECOND HOUPHOUET-OJUKWU MEETING ON WHICH REPORT NOT YET RECEIVED.

2. PIERRET SAID THAT ALTHOUGH HOUPHOUET AND BONGO PLAYING ACTIVE ROLE IN SEARCH FOR PEACE QUAI HAS YET TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM ABIDJAN AND LIBREVILLE ON ITS DEMARCHES TO THEM RE APPROACHING OJUKWU ON RELIEF QUESTION. HE ADDED OPINION THAT IT WILL PROBABLY BE IMPOSSIBLE OBTAIN AGREEMENT FOR EFFECTIVE RELIEF OPERATION USING ENUGU LAND CORRIDOR BECAUSE THIS WOULD REQUIRE OJUKWU'S AGREEMENT TO STOP INTERDICTING ONITSHA-ENUGU ROAD. OJUKWU MOST UNLIKELY GIVE SUCH AGREEMENT FOR FEAR THAT FMG WILL USE OPENED ROAD FOR MILITARY LOGISTICS AS WELL AS RELIEF. LAND LINK TO LAGOS VIA NORTHERN ROUTE FROM ENUGU DOES NOT LEND ITSELF TO MOVEMENT OF RELIEF SUPPLIES ON LARGE SCALE. PIERRET BELIEVES BEST WAY BREAK IMPASSE ON THIS QUESTION IS TO SET UP LAND CORRIDOR FROM PORT HARCOURT WHICH CAN BE REACHED BY BARGES AND SHALLOW-DRAFT VESSELS AND ALSO HAS GOOD AIRPORT. HE THINKS BIAFRANS MIGHT ACCEPT SOME SORT OF ICRC-CONTROLLED LAND LINK FROM PORT HARCOURT TO BIAFRA. THEIR PROPOSAL FOR DEMILITARIZED CORRIDOR IS UNREALISTIC.

GP-3. SHRIVER

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POL 27-14 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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Lagos 11094
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PAGE 01 LAGOS 11094 231958Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, GPM 04, SP 02, L 03, H 02, NSC 10, CIAE 00, INR 07, P 04, RSC 01,

SS 20, USIA 12, NSA 02, AID 28, RSR 01, /126 W

R 231700Z JUL 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCKA
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
USMISSION GENEVA
CINCSRIKE/CINCEAFSA
DIA
AMCONSUL IBADAN
AMCONSUL KADUNA

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 11094

SUBJECT: ENAHORO TRIP AND PEACE TALKS

1. COMMISSIONER OF INFORMATION AND LABOR ENAHORO
RELIABLY REPORTED LEAVING LAGOS JULY 24 FOR GENEVA
AND LONDON QTE IN CONNECTION WITH RESUMPTION PEACE
TALKS. UNGTE WE HAVE NO FURTHER INFO AT THIS TIME
AS TO EXACTLY WHAT ENAHORO WILL BE DOING.

DECON AUGUST 1, 1968
MATHEWS

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By MN/ARA Date 10/5/05



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PAGE 01 LIBREV 01542 221623Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00,

NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SPI 02, SS 20, USIA 12, AID 28, PC 04, SA 01, SR 01

ORM 03, RSR 01, 146, W

P 221500Z JUL 68
FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1814
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY 46
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS

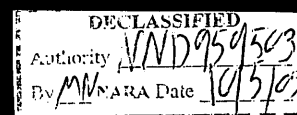
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIBREVILLE 1542

1. OJUKWU ARRIVED LIBREVILLE SATURDAY AFTERNOON
JULY 20 IN HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY'S MYSTERE 20 ACCOMPANIED
BY AZIKIWE, MBANEFO, MBUOKAPARA AND BAGONESE MININFO
MEBALEY. MET AT AIRPORT BY PRES BONGO AND CABINET.
DINNER GIVEN IN HONOR OJUKWU AT PRESIDENTIAL PALACE
ATTENDED BY PRESIDENT, VICEPRES MEBIANE, 5 CABINET
MINISTERS AND OTHER HIGH OFFICIALS, PLUS FRENCH AMB
DELAUNEY. FOLLOWING DINNER OJUKWU HAD 2 HOUR TALK
WITH BONGO. ACCORDING TO GOG DAILY NEWS BULLETIN
GABON MATIN. OJUKWU APPARENTLY DEPARTED LIBREVILLE
SOMETIME DURING NIGHT JULY 20 OR EARLY MORNING JULY 21.
DESTINATION AND MEANS TRANSPORTATION UNKNOWN TO US.

2. RE PARA 2 NIAMEY 2143, ON QUESTION JUST WHAT OJUKWU
SAW AND APPROVED, GABON MATIN THIS MORNING CARRIES
FOLLOWING CAREFULLY PHRASED STATEMENT HE MADE PRIOR
DEPARTURE LIBREVILLE. "MY ATTENTION HAS BEEN CALLED
TO 'RESOLUTION' OF OAU CONSULTATIVE
COMMITTEE WHICH MET NIAMEY THURSDAY, JUL 18, 1968. IT
APPROPRIATE, AND THIS ASSUMES GREAT IMPORTANCE TO STATE

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PRECISELY FOR INFO OF EVERYONE IN THE WORLD THAT NEITHER I NOR ANY REP OF BIAFRA PARTICIPATED IN WORK OF OAU CONSULTATIVE COMITE ON THAT DATE. NO REP OF BIAFRA HAD KNOWLEDGE OF THAT COMMUNIQUE BEFORE ITS PUBLICATION. CONSEQUENTLY ANY ASSERTION STATING I OR ANY REP OF BIAFRA ACCEPTED THAT COMMUNIQUE IN WHOLE OR IN PART IS WITHOUT ANY FOUNDATION. ONLY TIME I TOOK PART IN WORK OF OAU CONSULTATIVE COMITE WAS ON FRIDAY, JUL 19, 1968. THE ONLY COMMUNIQUE WITH WHICH MY PEOPLE AND I MYSELF CAN BE TRUTHFULLY AND JUSTLY ASSOCIATED IS THAT WHICH WAS PUBLISHED JULY 19, 1968. OJUKWU THEN READ TEXT OF COMITE'S COMMUNIQUE ANNOUNCING AGREEMENT OF FEDERAL GOVT AND OJUKWU TO ENTER IMMEDIATELY INTO PREPARATORY TALKS WITH A VIEW TO RENEWAL OF PEACE NEGOTIATIONS IN ADDIS UNDER CONSULTATIVE COMITE AUSPICES.

3. OJUKWU'S VISIT HERE JULY 20 WAS GIVEN GENEROUS COVERAGE BY RADIO, TV AND GABON MATIN. TV AND GABON MATIN COVERAGE SHOWED BOTH OJUKWU AND BONGO TO BE IN HIGH SPIRITS AND ANIMATED FRAME OF MIND. COVERAGE ALSO SHOWED FRENCH AMB DELAUNEY VERY MUCH IN EVIDENCE AT THE DINNER AT PRESIDENTIAL PALACE. EXEMPT BANE

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Authority	VND 950/503
By	MV NARA Date 10/5/05

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POL 27-14 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

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OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
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20 JUL 68 16 21

Origin
Info

ACTION: Amembassy LAGOS PRIORITY
INFO : DIA
CINCSTRIKE
Amconsul IBADAN
" KADUNA

Ref: DAO 313 July 68

Would be interested in any references Gowon made to current Niamey
talks and his attitudes on relief operations to QTE Biafra UNQTE.

206178

MICROFILMED BY NS/B

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KATZENBACH

Drafted by: AF:AFW:RMM Melbourne:ba 7/20/68	Tel. Ext. 2619	Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: Roy M. Melbourne Nigeria Task Force
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FORM 8-65 DS-322

CONFIDENTIAL
Classification

0316

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VMD 950303
By MVA Date 10/5/03

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OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

UNCLASSIFIED

Classification

POL 27-14 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

TR POL 307

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20 JUL 68 17 46 Z

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Origin	ACTION: Amembassy LAGOS	PRIORITY
Info:	INFO: Amembassy LONDON	
	" NIAMEY	
	" PARIS	
	" ADDIS ABABA	
	Amconsul IBADAN	
	" KADUNA	
	USUN	
	CINGSTRIKE	

SUBJECT: ~~XXXX~~ Nigeria, Press Summary July 20

1. Al Friendly, Jr. (NYTimes) from Niamey headed Combatants set Nigerian Parley said Nigeria and Biafra agreed resume negotiations in Addis Ababa to end civil war ~~X~~ according special communique OAU's consultative committee on Nigeria. Dramatic note of meetings ending tempered by caution Nigerian delegates who said they wanted see if preliminary talks to be held in Niamey indicated their opponents sincere in wishing reopen talks as soon as possible. Aside from being major diplomatic victory for 6-nation OAU group, agreement ~~XXXX~~ represents first hopeful peace sign since earlier talks collapsed June 1. Shortly after agreement announced Biafran leader Ojukwu entered private meeting with Niger chairman President Diori, scheduled to be ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ of preliminary discussions.

Drafted by: *RP*
AF/P: RJT Torrance
Clearance:

Tel. Ext. 4544

Telegraphic transmission end
classification approved by:AFW-Mr. Melbourne
Mr. Smith

UNCLASSIFIED

Classification

FORM DS-322
8-65

0317

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VND 954/503
By MNA Date 10/5/02

Page 2 of telegram to Amembassy LAGOS

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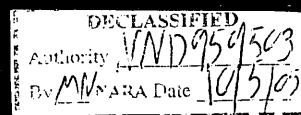
While Ojukwu with Diori, Biafran spokesman said his government would reject appeal contained in resolution ~~XXXXX~~ also made ~~XXXXX~~ public today to accept emergency relief supplies along land "mercy corridor" through federal ~~XXXXX~~ territory. Until journalists showed it to him, spokesman had not seen resolution prepared by OAU ~~XXXXX~~ group July 18 with approval Nigeria. Resolution described as vastly watered down version of draft resolution submitted originally by Ghana's General Ankrah. Delegates in Niamey seemed pleased with success in ~~X~~ bringing Nigerian conflict one step closer to conference table. Ankrah flew home evening July 19. Haile Selassie and Tubman expected leave July 20. Ojukwu left Niamey evening July 19 for Abidjan, leaving in Niamey some members of delegation that flew Niamey with him from Gabon.

2. William Schmick (Baltimore Sun) from Lagos reported FMG press office afternoon July 19 issued without comment what it said were resolutions OAU of ~~XXX~~ talks in Niamey. Earlier it was announced organization also supported resumption of peace talks, strongly affirmed ~~X~~ Federal position and called on Ojukwu to agree to "mercy corridor". As communique issued In Lagos, Ojukwu under heavy security guard arrived ~~X~~ dramatically in Niamey. Article said OAU Committee's resolutions placed six members OAU firmly on side of Federals, thereby apparently leaving rebel leader

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[very little negotiating room. As far as could be learned Lagos July 19]
resolutions had not been released Niamey. Observers noted six resolutions
were for sessions ending Niamey July 18 at which time no closing date
for conference had been set.

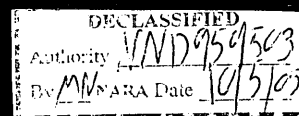
3, Stanley Maisler from Niamey in Washington Post: Biafra and Nigeria
will resume peace talks soon in another attempt end Nigerian civil war,
Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia, General/^{Ankrah}~~XXXXXX~~ of Ghana, President
Tubman of Liberia and President Diori of Niger announced July 19 on
behalf of OAU consultative commission on Nigeria. Announcement said new
peace talks will be held in Addis Ababa but no date given for talks.
Announcement made no mention of cease-fire. In separate resolutuion, OAU
mission appealed to Biafra to accept FMG proposal to ship food, medicine
and clothing into Biafra through federal lines that now surround former
Easter Region. ~~XXXXXX~~

4. Reuters item Washington Post datelined Geneva said Red Cross
announced August Lindt, Swedish Ambassador to Moscow, named head Red
Cross effort coordinate all aid to Nigeria. Announcement came as IRC
Geneva appealed to Swiss citizens under 50 to volunteer for what clearly
intended as massive relief organization. English speaking Swiss asked
volunteer as truck drivers, mechanics, radio operators, doctors, nurses
and pharmacists. KATZENBACH]

End

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0319





POL 27-14 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 859

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, SR 01, ORM 03, AID 28, E 15, GPM 04, NSC 10, SP 02, SS 20, RSC 01,

CTAE 00, DODE 00, INR 07, NSAE 00, P 04, USIA 12, RSR 01, IO 13, /151 W

P 201505Z JUL 68

FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1812

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

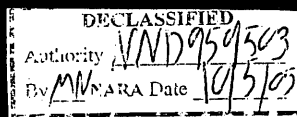
CONFIDENTIAL LIBREVILLE 1539

SUBJ BIAFRA: OJUKWU'S STOP IN GABON

0 OJUKWU'S FOUR HOUR STOP IN GABON YESTERDAY 19TH BEGAN IN UTMOST MODESTY AND WITHOUT ANY PRIOR ANNOUNCEMENT BUT ENDED WITH MANY OF TRAPPINGS OF STATE VISIT AND MUCH PUBLICITY. OJUKWU ARRIVED IN SPORT SHIRT AND SLACKS AND WAS MET AT AIRCRAFT DOOR BY SENIOR FRENCH MEMBER BONGO PERSONAL BODY GUARD. SENIOR OFF PRESENT WAS FONMIN SECGEN AND HE REMAINED IN BACKGROUND. THERE WAS ABBREVIATED RED CARPET FLANKED BY FOUR POLICEMEN. OJUKWU EMERGED FROM AIRPORT VIP LOUNGE HOUR LATER IN FULL MILITARY REGALIA TO BE WHISKED OFF TO SEE BONGO. AFTER TALK WITH BONGO AND BREAKFAST AT PALACE, OJUKWU AND BONGO DROVE IN OPEN CONVERTIBLE CADILLAC FOLLOWED BY CABINET TO AIRPORT. THERE BIAFRAN LEADER WAS INTERVIEWED FOR RADIO AND TV AND THEN WALKED FULL RED CARPET FLANKED BY PRESIDENTIAL GUARD TO REVIEW TROOP UNITS TO ACCOMPANIMENT MILITARY BAND. VISIT GIVEN GENEROUS RADIO AND TV COVERAGE LAST EVENING AND THIS MORNING GOG DAILY NEWS BULLETIN GABON MATIN CARRIED NUMEROUS PHOTOS, INCLUDING RARE LARGE FRONT PAGE PICTURE OF OJUKWU AND BONGO. OCCASION ALSO USED FOR ANNOUNCEMENT OF APPEAL BY MRS BONGO FOR POPULAR SUBSCRIPTION TO AID FUND FOR BIAFRAN WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

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0320





Department of State

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2. IN ADDITION TO THOSE LISTED IN LIBREVILLE 1528, NEWS MEDIA IDENTIFY FOLLOWING AS ACCOMPANYING OJUKWU: MBU (IN CHARGE FOREIGN AFFAIRS), CHIEF UDO AFFIAH, PROFESSOR BASSEY NDEME AND MR NUI AKPAM. RE PARA 2 NIAMEY 2114, GABON MATIN REPORTS DR EKE, IN CHARGE INFORMATION, HAD PROCEEDED DEL TO NIAMEY.

3. IN INTERVIEW, OJUKWU SAID TALK WITH BONGO HAD REINFORCED HIS CONVICTION THAT PEACE COULD BE ACHIEVED ONLY THROUGH DIALOGUE AND NEGOTIATION. (COMMENT: CONTRARY TO BONGO STATEMENTS TO ME REPORTED IN LIBREVILLE 1517, IT IMPROBABLE HE WENT VERY FAR IN URGING MORE FLEXIBILITY ON OJUKWU RE RELIEF SUPPLIES AND RESUMPTION NEGOTIATIONS. IT NOT IN BONGO NATURE OR VIEW OF THINGS TO VENTURE OUT IN FRONT WITH INITIATIVES OF THIS KIND.) OJUKWU SAID IMPORTANT POINT OF NIAMEY MTG WAS THAT FOR FIRST TIME AFRICAN CHIEFS OF STATE GATHERED TO CONSIDER BIAFRAN CASE. HE INTENDED FIRMLY AND HONESTLY PRESENT BIAFRAN POINT OF VIEW. BELIEVED THAT CHIEFS OF STATE WOULD DRAW LOGICAL CONCLUSIONS AND THAT PERHAPS THERE A CHANCE GOWON, AFTER YEAR OF WAR, WILL SEE ITS USELESSNESS AND RECOGNIZE HE HAS GONE ASTRAY.

4. CLOSE BY BONGO AND OJUKWU DURING VISIT WAS MININFO PIERRE MEBALEY WHO (CONTRARY TO LIBREVILLE 1533) WENT TO NIAMEY WITH OJUKWU IN HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY'S MYSTERE 20. MEBALEY IS ONE OF VERY FEW PEOPLE TO WHOM BONGO WOULD ENTRUST SUCH A MISSION. WITH REF TO LAST SENTENCE NIAMEY 2109, FONMIN AYOUNE NOT CLOSE TO BONGO AND IN ANY EVENT NOT AT ALL MAN FOR JOB. GP 3 BANE.

CONFIDENTIAL

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DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	VND 959503
By	MM/ARA Date 10/5/05



Department of State

TELEGRAM

23

POL 27-14 Biafra - Nigeria
X R POL 7 GABON

PPB 9-7 GABON

CONFIDENTIAL 082

PAGE 01 LIBREV 01528 191520Z

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ACTION: AFI 15

INFO: EUR 15, IO 13, SRI 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 02, CCO 00, SSO 00, USIE 00,

CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, HI 02, INR 07, LI 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, PI 04,

RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, NSCE 00, AID 28, RSR 01, /135 W

01 190830Z JUL 68

FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1808
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY PARIS

COINFIIDENIT I A L LIBREVILLE 1528

SUBJECT BIAFRA

1. OJUKWU ARRIVED LIBREVILLE 0700 LOCAL THIS MORNING IN
TRANSGABON DC-3 WITH COMPANY'S NAME AND INSIGNIA PAINTED
OUT. ACCOMPANIED BY DR. AZIKIWE, CHIEF JUSTICE SIRI LOUIS
MBANEFO, FORMER PRES. EASTERN REGION OKAPARA, AND ENI
NUOKU, AN ACADEMICIAN. TOTAL PARTY OF 14.

2. HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY'S MYSTERE 20 AT AIRPORT READY TO
FLY PARTY IN TWO TRIPS TO NIAMEY.

3. OJUKWU HAS GONE INTO PRESIDENTIAL PALACE TO CALL ON
BONGO. PRESUMABLY WILL DEPART ABOUT 1000 LOCAL FOR 2 1/2
HOUR FLIGHT TO NIAMEY.

4. FOR NIAMEY. FREE LANCE CORRESPONDENT BRUCE OUDS
HAS TENTATIVE OJUKWU APPROVAL TO ACCOMPANY PARTY ON
EITHER FIRST OR SECOND FLIGHT TO NIAMEY. OUDS DOES NOT
HAVE NIGER VISA BUT SAYS HE ANTICIPATES NO PROBLEM.
GPI 3 BANEI

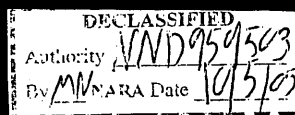
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Libreville 1528
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POL 27-14 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 10986 191440Z

50

ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, RSR 01, RSC 01, /045 W

R 191215Z JUL 68.
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1616

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 10986

SUBJ: NIGERIA: NEW PEACE INITIATIVE

REF: LONDON'S 10939

NOFORN:

APPRECIATE NEED PROTECT SOURCE INFO REFTEL BUT SUGGEST
DEPARTMENT CONSIDER REPEATING TO EMBASSY NIAMEY IN
ORDER ASSIST IN THEIR INTERPRETATION OF EVENTS DURING
OAU CONFERENCE.

GP-3. MATHEWS

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17-19-68
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AR Pol 27-14 Berfin - Ingua
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54.
ACTION AF: 15

INFO SCS 04, SCA 02, NSA 02, CIAE 00, DODE 00, INR 07, P 04, RSC 01, USIA 12,
GPM 04, EUR 15, RSRI 01, 067 W

R 191045Z JUL 68
FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1804
AMEMBASSY BONN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIBREVILLE 1530

REF LIBREVILLE 1524

OUDES DID NOT PROCEED BRAZZA AND KINSHASA TODAY AS
PLANNED. NOW PROCEEDING NIAMEY. BANE

7-19-68
Schubert 1530

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PAGE 01 LIBREV 01531 191525Z

52

ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, SR 01, ORM 03, SCA 02, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02,

INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12,

AID 28, SA 01, PC 04, RSR 01, 148 W

P 191100Z JUL 68
FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1805
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIBREVILLE 1531

REF: LIBREVILLE 1528

1. MYSTERE 20 DEPARTED LIBREVILLE WITH OJUKWU AT
APPROX 1100 LOCAL. AFTER TALKS AT PRESIDENTIAL PALACE BONGO
AND ENTIRE CABINET SAW OJUKWU OFF AT AIRPORT.

2. TRANSGABON DC-3 CARRYING BAGGAGE AND MEMBERS OF OJUKWU
PARTY WHO DID NOT LEAVE ON MYSTERE 20 WILL DEPART
LIBREVILLE FOR NIAMEY APPROX 1330.

3. NO GABONESE ACCOMPANIED OJUKWU ON MYSTERE 20, BUT APPARENTLY
CONSIDERATION BEING GIVEN SENDING GABONESE REP ON DC-3 THIS
AFTERNOON.

4. CORRESPONDENT OUDES HAS BEEN PICKED UP BY GABONESE
SURETE TO "CHECK HIS PAPERS". CONSUL HAS GONE TO SURETE
HEADQUARTERS WITH OUDES. GP 3 BANE

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Libreville 1531

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, RSR 01, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00,
NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SR 01, ORM 03, AID 28, IO 136

/141 W

P 191630Z JUL 68
FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
TO AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
SECSTATE WASHDC 1807
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIBREVILLE 1533

REF NIAMEY 210

SUBJ BIARFA

1. APPEARS AS INDICATED REFTEL THAT MEBALDH DID
FLY TO NIAMEY LATE YESTERDAY IN HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY'S MYSTERE 20.

2. SUBSEQUENT TO TRANSMISSION LIBREVILLE 1532 OUDES
MADE INTERESTING COMMENT THAT FACT MBANEFO DID NOT
ACCOMPANY OJUKWU IN MYSTERE 20 THIS MORNING BUT WAS
LEFT TO TAKE SLOW FREIGHT DC-3 SUGGESTS HIS STANDING
WAS DROPPED SINCE HE HEADED BIAFRAN TEAM KAMPALA
AND LONDON PEACE NEGOTIATION. OUDES ATTRIBUTES
THIS INPART TO HIS DOVISH STATEMENTS IN LONDON.

3. OUDES CURRENTLY PLANNING ARRIVE NIAMEY SUNDAY
EVENING HAVING BEEN COMMISSIONED BY BBC. GP 3 BANE

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7-19-68
Libreville / 533

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POL 27-14 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

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PAGE 01 LIBREV 01532 191918Z

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ACTION: AFI 15

INFO: EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSA 00,

NSC 10, PI 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SR 01, ORM 03, SAH 02,

NIC 01, AID 28, E 15, RSR 01, 159 W

PI 191530Z JUL 68
FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1806
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIBREVILLE 1532

REF: LIBREVILLE 1531

SUBJ: BIAFRA

1. REMAINING 8 MEMBERS BIAFRA DELI DEPARTED
LIBREVILLE 1330 LOCAL ABOARD PRES BONGO'S PERSONAL
DC-3 FOR NIAMEY. TRIP EXPECTED TO TAKE 7 HOURS
WITH ONE FUEL STOP UNKNOWN DESTINATION. THIS PORTION
DELI HEADED BY MBANEFO.

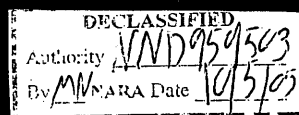
2. PRESS ADVISOR GABONESE PRESIDENCY ROBINEL WHO
ACTED AS COORDINATOR FOR VISIT AND AS OFFICIAL
GABONESE TRANSLATOR, STATED AFTER DEPARTURE DC-3 THAT
HE DID NOT THINK THIS SECOND AIRCRAFT WOULD ARRIVE
NIAMEY IN TIME FOR CONFERENCE AS BIAFRA DELI NOT GOING
TO NEGOTIATE BUT MERELY TO RESTATE POSITION IT HAS HELD
ALL ALONG. PRIOR DEPARTURE, OJUKWU GAVE RADIO/TV INTERVIEW
AT AIRPORT. OJUKWU BARELY AUDIBLE BUT AT ONE
POINT THOSE PRESENT HEARD HIM SAY SOMETHING TO EFFECT THAT
ONE MONTH MORE WON'T MAKE ANY DIFFERENCE AND THAT
AFTER 12 MONTHS OF WAR THE FEDERAL GOVT MUST REALIZE
FUTILITY OF CONTINUING WAR AGAINST BIAFRA. WILL

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PAGE 02 LIBREV 01532 191918Z

REPORT MORE FULLY WHEN INTERVIEW BROADCAST PROBABLY THIS EVENING.

3. IN HIS INSTRUCTIONS TO AIRCRAFT PILOTS, ROBINEL TOLD THEM TO SPEND THE NIGHT NIAMEY AND BRING "THEM" BACK TO LIBREVILLE TOMORROW ALONG WITH GABONESE MININFO MEBALEY WHO, CONTRARY OUR EARLIER REPORT (LIBREVILLE 1531), ACCOMPANIED OJUKWU IN MYSTERE 20 THIS MORNING. GABONESE CHIEF OF PROTOCOL AT PRESIDENCY STATED THAT IT NOT YET DECIDED IF DEL, INCLUDING OJUKWU, WOULD RETURN TO BIAFRA DIRECTLY FROM NIAMEY OR VIA LIBREVILLE.

4. OUDES NOT DETAINED BY SURETE BUT WAS NOT ALLOWED ACCOMPANY DEL BECAUSE MBANEFO SAID HE HAD NO INSTRUCTIONS FROM OJUKWU ON MATTER.

5. EMB LEARNED TODAY THAT BIAFRA HAS PERM REP LIBREVILLE WHO ARRIVED SEVERAL DAYS AGO. NAME UNKNOWN. BANE

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By	MW NARA
Date	10/5/05



Pol 27-14 Biafra - Nigeria
X2 Pol 27-9 Biafra - Nigeria
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 01 IBADAN 00542 191006Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO: EUR 15, NSA 02, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSC 10,

P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SAH 02, SA 01, AID 28, IO 13, SR 01,

ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 02, RSR 01, ACDA 16, /168 W

R 181520Z JUL 68

FM AMCONSUL IBADAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 602

INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMCONSUL KADUNA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE IBADAN 542

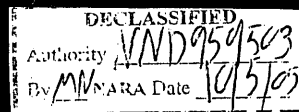
SUBJECT: AG VIEWS ON NEGOTIATIONS AND RELIEF SUPPLIES

REF: IBADAN'S A-134; TEL 533; KADUNA 1164, 1152 AND PREVIOUS

1. ACTION GROUP YORUBAS IN WESTERN NIGERIA CONTINUE TO SHOW PREFERENCE FOR FLEXIBLE APPROACH TO PROBLEMS OF PEACE NEGOTIATIONS WITH BREAKAWAY EAST AND OF GETTING RELIEF SUPPLIES INTO REBEL-HELD AREAS.
2. EDITORIAL IN AG'S NIGERIAN TRIBUNE JULY 17 SUPPORTED GOWON'S WILLINGNESS ACCEPT INTERNATIONAL OBSERVER FORCE, ADDING "THOSE WHO PROTEST AGAINST ACCEPTANCE EXTERNAL OBSERVER FORCE ONLY BEING UNREALISTIC. A CONQUERED 180 PEOPLE WILL NOT BE EASY REINTEGRATE INTO NIGERIAN FAMILY UNTIL THEIR CONFIDENCE IN FEDERATION FULLY RESTORED."
3. IN JULY 18 EDITORIAL, TRIBUNE WELCOMED ACCEPTANCE BY REBEL LEADERS OF INVITATION BY OAU COMMITTEE TO COME TO NIAMEY TO PRESENT THEIR CASE. SAID NOT ONLY THAT COMMITTEE COULD PERSUADE REBELS ACCEPT MERCY CORRIDOR OFFERED BY FMG BUT ALSO COULD URGE FMG TO AGREE TO ICRC AIRLIFTING RELIEF SUPPLIES IN ADDITION TO MERCY CORRIDOR.

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PAGE 02 IBADAN 00542 191006Z

4. COMMENT: WORTH NOTING THAT IN THIS PART OF NIGERIA THERE IS SIGNIFICANT ELEMENT THAT DOES NOT SHARE HAWKISH VIEWS OF NTUC, COMMITTEE OF TEN OR "NEW NIGERIAN."
STRONG

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Date	10/5/05



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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

Addis Ababa
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7-18-68
4785

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PAGE 01 ADDIS 04785 190540Z

21
ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, NSA 02, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03,

NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SAH 02, SR 01, ORM 03,

AID 28, SA 01, RSR 01, 146 W

R 181600Z JUL 68
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6316
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY KAMPALA
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
AMCONSUL IBADAN
AMCONSUL KADUNA
USMISSION USUN
USMISSION GENEVA
CINCSRIKE/CINCMEASFA

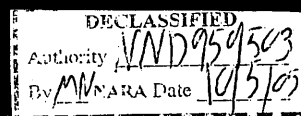
CONFIDENTIAL ADDIS ABABA 4785

1. PRIMIN AKLILOU TOLD ME TODAY THAT OAU COMMITTEE PRESSING GOWON AGREE TO TEMPORARY CEASE-FIRE FOR DURATION COMMITTEE MEETINGS. IF THIS SUCCESSFUL, HIM PLANS PLACE TWO DELEGATIONS IN SEPARATE ROOMS AND HAVE COMMITTEE SHUTTLE BETWEEN ROOMS IN EFFORT EFFECT PERMANENT SETTLEMENT OF ISSUES.

2. HE SAID IT IS TOO EARLY SPECULATE WHETHER EFFORT WOULD BE SUCCESSFUL, BUT THAT EVERYTHING NOW RESTS ON GOWON'S WILLINGNESS

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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 02 ADDIS 04785 190540Z

ACCEPT TEMPORARY CEASE-FIRE WITHOUT PRECONDITIONS OR COMMITMENTS
AS TO FUTURE HALL

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By	MMNARA Date 10/3/05

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POL 2214 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
 XR POL 27-9 Biafra-Nigeria
 Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 01 LIBREV 01525 181655Z

53
ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, NSA 02, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, HI 02, INR 07, L 03, NSC 10,

P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SA 01, AID 28, PC 04, SR 01, ORM 03,

IO 13, SAH 02, SCS 04, SCA 02, RSR 01, 156 W

R 181610Z JUL 68
 FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1802
 I FO RUTAIJ/AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN 127
 AMEMBASSY DARI ES SALAAM
 AMEMBASSY LAGOS
 AMEMBASSY LONDON
 AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
 AMEMBASSY PARIS
 AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

CONFIDENTIAL A LIBREVILLE 1525

REF LIBREVILLE 1517 NOTAL ABIDJAN 3761

SUBJ BIAFRA

1. PRES BONGO YESTERDAY 17TH SENT HIS NEPHEW ASST CABINET DIR MARTIN BONGO TO ABIDJAN WITH "PERSONAL MESSAGE" FOR HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY. UNDOUBTEDLY MARTIN BONGO IS PERSONAL REP BONGO TOLD ME HE INTENDED SEND FOR PURPOSE CONCERNING WITH HOUPHOUET TO URGE MORE FLEXIBLE POSITION ON OJUKWU (PARS 1 REFTEL). (BONGO INDICATED HE WOULD LIKELY SEND ASST CABINET DIR.) MARTIN BONGO COULD GO ON TO NIAMEY OR CONSULTATIVE COMITE MTG AS PRES REP (PARS 2 LAGOS 10912), BUT WE HAVE NO INDICATION YET THIS WILL BE CASE.

2. PRESIDENT GABONESE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL BOUCAVEL ALSO WENT TO ABIDJAN YESTERDAY FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH IVORIEN COUNTERPART AND AS FAR AS WE KNOW HE HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH BIAFRA QUESTION. BOUCAVEL IS FIGUREHEAD AND IT HIGHLY DOUBTFUL HE WOULD BE ENTRUSTED WITH MISSION ON BIAFRA PROBLEM. GP-3. BANE

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By	MVA/ARA Date 10/5/03



POL 27-14 BIAFRA NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10,

P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, IO 13, SAH 02, SA 01, AID 28, NEA 13

RSR 01, 153 W

P 181730Z JUL 68
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4879
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY KAMPALA UNN

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 10939

NOFORN

SUBJECT: NIGERIA: NEW PEACE INITIATIVES

REF: LONDON'S 10790

1. COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT'S HENSLEY INFORMED ASS'T SECTY PALMER THIS MORNING THAT LETTER HAD BEEN RECEIVED FROM BIAFRAN "FONMIN" MATTHEW MBU JULY 15 REPLYING TO ARNOLD SMITH'S MESSAGE URGING RESUMPTION KAMPALA TALKS (REFTEL). ACCORDING HENSLEY, MBU'S LETTER STARTED OFF BY REPEATING HARD-LINE BIAFRAN POSITION THAT CEASE-FIRE MUST PRECEDE NEGOTIATIONS AND CONDEMNING BRITISH FOR SUPPLYING ARMS TO FMG. IN FINAL PARAGRAPH, HOWEVER, LETTER TOOK DIFFERENT TACK. MBU (IN SENTENCE WHICH HENSLEY THOUGHT HAD BEEN INSERTED AS AFTERTHOUGHT) SAID THAT "GOVT AND PEOPLE OF BIAFRA WERE ANXIOUS TO CONDUCT TALKS ON TERMS OF CEASEFIRE AND SUBSEQUENT POLITICAL ARRANGEMENTS IF FMG GENUINELY INTERESTED."

2. HENSLEY CONTACTED BIAFRAN REP MOJEKWU JULY 16. MOJEKWU HAD JUST RETURNED LONDON AFTER TRIP HOME AND CONFIRMED LAST SENTENCE IN MBU'S LETTER MEANT WHAT IT SAID: BIAFRANS WOULD BE WILLING RESUME TALKS IF ARNOLD SMITH ASSURED THEM FMG "SERIOUS". ON STRENGTH OF MOJEKWU'S COMMENTS, HENSLEY CONTACTED

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Date	10/5/05



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PAGE 02 LONDON 10939 182046Z

SMITH WHO IS RETURNING FROM HOLIDAY IN FRANCE IN TIME TO MEET MOJEKWU AND OTHER BIAFRAN REPS JULY 20. IF THIS MEETING CONFIRMS THAT GROUNDS EXIST FOR RESUMPTION KAMPALA TALKS, SMITH WILL FOLLOW THROUGH WITH MINIMUM OF DELAY.

3. CS HAS ALSO BEEN LOOKING FURTHER INTO QUESTION OF TRIP TO IBOLAND BY ARNOLD SMITH. HENSLEY SAID FMG HAD INFORMED SMITH THEY HAD NO OBJECTION "IN PRINCIPLE" TO HIS GOING TO BIAFRA, BUT THOUGHT OAU CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE SHOULD BE MADE AWARE OF PROJECT. THIS WAS EVIDENTLY BEING DONE. HENSLEY COMMENTED THAT IF BIAFRANS THEMSELVES DID NOT INSIST ON SMITH VISIT AS PREREQUISITE TO RENEWED NEGOTIATIONS CS WAS UNLIKELY TO PRESS IDEA AT PRESENT TIME. IT WAS USEFUL TO HAVE IN HAND FMG'S ACCEPTANCE OF IDEA, EVEN THOUGH QUALIFIED. HENSLEY NOTED IN PASSING THAT CANADIANS HAD RATHER RELUCTANTLY AGREED FLY SMITH INTO BIAFRA IF TRIP MATERIALIZED. THIS TOO WAS USEFUL GROUNDWORK.

4. SPECULATING ABOUT REASONS FOR WHAT APPEARED TO BE BIAFRAN SHIFT OF POSITION ON NEGOTIATIONS, HENSLEY SAID LOCAL IBOS TALKED FREELY ABOUT "MAJOR FEDERAL ATTACK" WHICH THEY EXPECTED MOMENTARILY. PALMER COMMENTED THAT ON BASIS HIS LAGOS VISIT, AND ESPECIALLY HIS LONG TALK WITH GOWON, HE THOUGHT FMG WOULD NOT SABOTAGE GENUINE PEACE INITIATIVE. GOWON IS PARTICULAR SEEMED QUITE SINCERE IN WANTING TO LIMIT BLOODSHED AND REACH NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT OF CONFLICT.

5. RE FOREIGN OBSERVER, FORCE, HENSLEY CONFIRMED THAT BRITISH AND CS WERE CONTINUING WITH ADVANCE PREPARATIONS. BOTH SIDES TO CONFLICT HAD BEEN ASKED TO SUBMIT LISTS OF STATES WHOSE FORCE WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE. CANADA, GHANA AND INDIA HAD APPEARED ON BOTH LISTS. OF THESE THREE, HENSLEY THOUGHT THAT ONLY INDIA WOULD BE HARD TO PERSUADE. CS BELIEVED THAT AT LEAST 4 BTNS WOULD BE NEEDED FOR ADEQUATE FORCE -- ONE BTN FROM EACH OF FOUR STATES. BRITISH CONTRIBUTION WOULD BE EXTREMELY IMPORTANT, SINCE ONLY BRITISH AND CANADIANS HAD CAPABILITY TO GET OBSERVERS INTO PLACE QUICKLY. HENSLEY HOPED THAT IF CEASE-FIRE WAS DECLARED BIAFRANS MIGHT WITHDRAW THEIR OBJECTIONS TO BRITISH PARTICIPATION.

6. RE NECESSITY TO AVOID COMPETITION BETWEEN CS AND OAU PEACE INITIATIVES, HENSLEY SAID HE HAD TALKED EARLIER IN

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WEEK WITH NIGERIAN COUNSELOR BALEWA WHO EXPRESSED VIEW CS AND OAU EFFORTS SHOULD BE COMPLEMENTARY. PALMER AGREED, SAYING KAMPALA TALKS HAD DEMONSTRATED CS COULD PROVIDE "NEUTRAL MILIEU" AND COULD SERVICE TALKS EFFECTIVELY; OAU ON OTHER HAND COULD EXERT INFLUENCE AND AUTHORITY ON BOTH SIDES TO ENCOURAGE REASONABLE AGREEMENT AND ASSURE THEY ABIDED BY IT.

7. SINCE DRAFTING ABOVE, HENSLEY HAS TELEPHONED TO SAY BIAFRAN-REP KOGBARA HAS CONFIRMED VERBALLY THAT IBOS WANT TO TALK. KOGBARA VOLUNTEERED THAT LONDON WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE VENUE. AT HENSLEY'S REQUEST HE IS PUTTING THIS IN WRITING. SMITH'S MEETING WITH BIAFRANS SATURDAY MORNING IS STILL ON.

8. AT DINNER LAST NIGHT PALMER WAS INFORMED BY COMMONWEALTH OFFICE'S NORRIS AND TEBBIT THAT TORIES HAVE CALLED FOR NIGERIA DEBATE IN COMMONS MONDAY, JULY 22. BOTH OFFICIALS WERE DEEPLY DISMAYED BY PROSPECT. NORRIS OBSERVED THAT GOVT WAS "ON ROPES" OVER ITS ARMS-SUPPLY POLICY. COMMONWEALTH SECTY THOMSON HAD HELD LINE SO FAR BUT MINISTERS WERE GETTING VERY NERVOUS ABOUT LACK OF PRESS AND PARLIAMENTARY SUPPORT. IT WAS HARD FOR GOVT TO DEFEND POLICY BECAUSE ITS HARSHTEST CRITICS WERE ON LABOUR BACK BENCHES AND TORY MEMBERS WHO ORDINARILY MIGHT HAVE HELPED GOVT OUT DID NOT WANT TO DO WILSON ANY FAVORS.

9. NORRIS DID NOT KNOW WHETHER DEBATE WOULD BE FOLLOWED BY VOTE, BUT HE FEARED MINISTERS MIGHT REVERSE ARMS-SUPPLY POLICY RATHER THAN EXPOSE GOVT TO DEFEAT IF OPPOSITION CALLED FOR DIVISION. IN PARTICULAR, HE WAS APPREHENSIVE LEST FMG LAUNCH NEW OFFENSIVE BEFORE MONDAY. HE THOUGHT THIS WOULD CERTAINLY FORCE LABOUR GOVT'S HAND AND CAUSE ARMS SHIPMENTS BE HALTED. PALMER COMMENTED THAT WITH NEW POSSIBILITIES FOR RESUMPTION OF PEACE TALKS THIS WAS NOT TIME TO ROCK BOAT IN LAGOS. NORRIS AND TEBBIT AGREED, BUT SAID IN EXISTING HOSTILE CLIMATE OF OPINION MINISTERS FELT ISOLATED AND NEEDED BRACING.
BRUCE

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Authority	VND 954503
By	MW NARA Date 10/5/03

ORIGIN/ACTION

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POL 23-8 NIGERIA

XR POL 27-14 BIAFRA

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AGR COM FRH

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TR XMB AIR

ARMY CIA NAVY

OSD USIA NSA

NSC

A-134

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(Unclassified Enclosures)

TO : Department of State

INFO : KADUNA, LAGOS

FROM : Amconsul IBADAN

DATE: July 17, 1968

SUBJECT: WESTERN NIGERIA: Nigerian Trade Union Congress (NTUC)
Demonstrations in Ibadan

REF : Ibadan tel 533

The referenced telegram reported the small and peaceful NTUC demonstration in Ibadan on July 13, 1968 against alleged foreign interference in the Nigerian civil war. The protest letters handed to the American Consulate (enclosure No. 1) and the British Deputy High Commission (enclosure No. 2) are herewith submitted.

In addition to the slogans on the placards mentioned in the referenced telegram, there were others such as "Deware of the British When They Give AID"; "Long Live Nigeria: Nigerian Unity Must be Preserved"; "Secession Must Surrender to Nigerian Unity"; "Down With Foreign Troops: One Nigeria"; "No Observer Force Nigeria" and the inevitable "the task to Keep Nigeria One Must be Done."

Comment: Characteristically, the Western Government-owned Daily Sketch, reported the number of demonstrators (42 by actual count) as 3,000.

STRONG

Enclosures:

1. NTUC Protest Letter on U.S. Role in World Affairs.
2. NTUC Protest Letter against Observer Force.

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FORM DS-323

Drafted by: WCMithoefer, Jr.:gor 7/16/68

Contents and Classification Approved by:

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By

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10/5/05

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POL 27-14 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 613

PAGE: 01 LONDON 10790 121902Z

54.
ACTION AFI 15:

INFO: EUR 15, IO 13, SR 01, ORM 03, NSA 02, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02,

INR 07, L 03, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SPI 02, SS 20, USIA 12, ACDA 16,

RSR 01, 131 W

R 121706Z JUL 68
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4772
INFO: AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY KAMPALA
US MISSION GENEVA 767

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 10790

PARIS: FOR PALMER

SUB: ARNOLD SMITH WISHES TRAVEL BIAFRA

1. COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT'S ASTON AND HENSLEY ADVISE US THAT SYG ARNOLD SMITH SAW ENAHORO JULY 11 TO URGE ON HIM ADVANTAGES OF SMITH TRAVELLING TO BIAFRA TO SEE OJUKWU. SMITH ARGUED FACE-TO-FACE MEETING MIGHT ENABLE HIM TO PERSUADE OJUKWU SOFTEN BIAFRAN POSITION ON NEGOTIATIONS AND RELIEF. ENAHORO WAS NO MORE ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT IDEA THAN BEFORE, BUT DID NOT REJECT IT AND SAID HE WOULD REPORT SMITH'S ARGUMENTS TO LAGOS.

2. CS'S HENSLEY IS STAYING IN TOUCH WITH BIAFRAN REP KOGBARA IN LONDON, BUT SMITH HAS STILL RECEIVED NO RESPONSE FROM OJUKWU TO HIS MESSAGE URGING RESUMPTION KAMPALA TALKS. SMITH MEANWHILE HAS GONE TO FRANCE FOR SHORT LEAVE AND DEPUTY SYG ADU TO GHANA FOR SAME PURPOSE. BOTH ARE PREPARED RETURN ON SHORT NOTICE IF NECESSARY. PROSPECTS, HOWEVER, ARE FOR CONTINUED LULL IN CS PEACE INITIATIVES IN IMMEDIATE FUTURE.

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By MNA Date 10/5/95



Pol 27-14 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

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ACTION: AF 15

INFO: EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSC 10, P 04,

RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, NSA 02, RSR 01, SAH 02, SA 01, AID 28,

PC 04, /146 W

R 101830Z JUL 68
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4087
INFO RUTAHN/AEMBASSY ACCRA 165
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
US MISSION GENEVA 1368

UNCLAS: PARIS 17794

SUBJECT: BISFRAN SPOKESMAN HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE

REF: LAGOS 10670

1. BIAFRAN SPOKESMAN IN PARIS RAPHAEL UWECHUE (FORMER FIRST SECRETARY OF NIGERIAN EMBASSY HERE) SPOKE TO PARIS OVERSEAS PRESS ASSOCIATION JULY 9. PRESS CONFERENCE MERELY ANOTHER ELEMENT IN PRO-BIAFRA PUBLIC RELATIONS CAMPAIGN WHICH HAS BEEN RECEIVING CONSIDERABLE PLAY FROM PARIS DAILIES LE MONDE AND FIGARO AND FROM STATE-CONTROLLED RADIO FOR PAST TEN DAYS. MOST NOTABLE OF UWECHUE'S REMARKS AS REPORTED BY AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE FOLLOW.

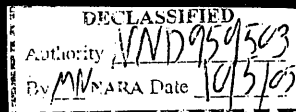
2. "OUR INTENTION IS NOT TO BREAK UP NIGERIA, BUT TO PROTECT POPULATION OF BIAFRA. WE ARE READY TO RESUME NEGOTIATIONS WITH LAGOS AT ANY TIME ON CONDITION THAT IT IS NOT AT GUN POINT."

3. AFP SAYD UWECHUE REFUSED ANSWER DIRECT QUESTION ON WHETHER BIAFRA WOULD RENOUNCE SECESSION IN EXCHANGE FOR AGREEMENT BY LAGOS TO CONFEDERAL SYSTEM FOR ENTIRE COUNTRY.

4. "IF ON BOTH SIDES THERE IS AGREEMENT TO SIT DOWN AT CONFERENCE TABLE WITHOUT CONDITIONS AND RESERVATIONS, ONE CAN ALWAYS FIND A FORMULA ACCEPTABLE TO TWO PARTIES."

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5. AFP SAYS UWUECHUE STATED THAT BEST POSSIBLE FORM OF INTERNATIONAL MEDIATION WOULD BE NEW INTERVENTION BY COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT, WITH MORAL SUPPORT OF UNITED NATIONS AND OAU.

6. CONCERNING RELIEF SUPPLIES, UWECHUE REPORTEDLY SAID THAT REFUSAL ACCEPT DELIVERY FROM FMG TERRITORY "NOT BASED ON ANY POLITICAL REASON BUT ONLY ON DISTRUST FELT BY OUR POPULATION TOWARD LAGOS."

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INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSC 10, P 04,

RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, NSA 02, SAH 02, SA 01, AID 28, PC 04,

ACDA 16, RSR 01, 162 W

R 091245Z JUL 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1428
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY KAMPALA
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY YADUNDE
USMISSION GENEVA
AMCONSUL IBADAN
AMCONSUL KADUNA
CINCSTRIKE/CINCMEAFA
DIA

CONFIDENTIAL LAGOS 10670

SUBJECT: NEGATIVE BIAFRAN STATEMENT ON
RESUMPTION PEACE TALKS

REF: LAGOS 10301

1. REBEL RADIO CARRIED REPORT ON NEWS CONFERENCE
GIVEN BY SIR LOUIS MBANEFO, BIAFRAN CHIEF DELEGATE
TO KAMPALA PEACE TALKS ON JULY 5 (RECEIPT OF MONITORED
TEXT DELAYED). MAJOR POINTS FOLLOW: TEXT CARRIED AS
FBIS ITEM N050910:

2. MBANEFOR REPORTEDLY REAFFIRMED THAT THERE NO

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POINT IN GOING BACK TO LONDON TO TAKE PART IN ANY PEACE TALKS AS NIGERIA STILL BELIEVES IN MILITARY SOLUTION TO PRESENT CONFLICT." REFERRING TO COMMUNIQUE AFTER SHEPHERD-GOWON TALKS, MBANEFO SAID IT "DOES NOT DEVIATE FROM NIGERIA'S STAND AT KAMPALA TALKS WHICH BIAFRA DID NOT ACCEPT." SIR LOUIS EXPLAINED THAT "WHEN KAMPALA TALKS BROKE DOWN HE DECIDED TO GO TO LONDON BECAUSE HE BELIEVED TO GET A CEASE-FIRE IT MUST START FROM WHITEHALL."

3. IN LONDON HE MET WITH LORD SHEPHERD WHO OFFERED GOOD OFFICES OF HMG TO ARRANGE FOR FURTHER TALKS. MBANEFO DID NOT OBJECT, PROVIDED BRITAIN STOPPED SHIPPING ARMS TO LAGOS. SHEPHERD "ARGUED THAT IF BRITAIN STOPPED SUPPLY OF ARMS TO LAGOS, IT WOULD LOSE INTEREST (AS RECEIVED). IN THE NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT. SO HE AGREED AND DECIDED TO RETURN TO BIAFRA TELLING THE BRITISH MINISTER THAT IF HE SUCCEEDED IN PERSUADING LAGOS TO ACCEPT A CEASE-FIRE AND ENGAGE IN MEANINGFUL TALKS HE (MBANEFO) WOULD BE PREPARED TO RETURN TO LONDON FOR FURTHER TALKS. SIR LOUIS SAID THAT OBVIOUSLY LORD SHEPHERD DID NOT SUCCEED IN PERSUADING LAGOS TO ACCEPT A CEASE-FIRE."

4. MBANEFO REPORTEDLY SAID HE DID NOT KNOW THE BASIS OF SHEPHERD'S SATISFACTION "THAT NIGERIA IS PREPARED TO ENGAGE IN MEANINGFUL TALKS. HE DECLARED: IN THE ABSENCE OF THE ASSURANCE, THERE IS NO POINT IN GOING BACK TO LONDON."

5. MBANEFO ACCUSED BRITISH OF CONTRIBUTING TO BREAKDOWN OF KAMPALA TALKS BY CONTINUED SUPPLY OF ARMS, ADDING "IT IS LIKE PUTTING A SWORD AT OUR THROAT AND ASKING US TO NEGOTIATE."

6. COMMENT: AS REPORTED PARA 3 REFTTEL, BRITISH THOUGHT "MBANEFO PROMISED WHEN LEAVING KAMPALA THAT HE WOULD RETURN TO LONDON IN ORDER KEEP LINES OF COMMUNICATION OPEN BETWEEN TWO SIDES." THIS DISCOURAGING AND INFLEXIBLE STATEMENT SEEMS SPECIFIC NEGATIVE TO IDEA OF MBANEFO'S RETURNING. WHETHER

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OJUKWU PREPARED SEND SOMEONE ELSE, OR WHETHER
DETERIORATING CONDITIONS WITH IN BIAFRA WILL SOON
LEAD HIM CHANGE POLICY, MUST REMAIN MATTER FOR
CONJECTURE. AS YET WE HAVE NO INDICATIONS OF SUCH
CHANGE.

GP-4. MATHEWS

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ACTION EUR 20

INFO AF 09, IO 13, SS 20, AID 28, CIAEI 00, DODEI 00, GPM 04, MEW 07, INR 07,
NSAE 00, P 04, RSC 01, SCA 02, SCB 04, USIA 12, RBRI 01, 132: W

P 031715Z JUL 68
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4622
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY KAMPALA
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
USMISSION GENEVA
CINCSRIKE/CINCMCAFSA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LONDON 10572

SUBJECT: NIGERIA: BRITISH STATEMENT ON EMERGENCY RELIEF
AND OBSERVER FORCE

REF: LONDONS 9783 AND 10796

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1. COMMONWEALTH SECRETARY THOMSON IN HOUSE OF COMMONS JULY 2
ANNOUNCED THAT HMG WILL MAKE AVAILABLE UP TO LBS250,000 FOR
RELIEF ASSISTANCE "IN WAR-STRICKEN AREAS OF NIGERIA, INCLUDING
IBO AREAS". THOMSON FURTHER NOTED HMG'S INTENTION THAT
"RELIEF AID SHOULD BE USED AS FLEXIBLY AS POSSIBLE". TO
INSURE THIS, RELIEF TEAM CONSISTING OF LORD HUNT, SIR COLIN
THORNLEY, A. B. HODGSON, DEPUTY DIRECTOR GEN. BRITISH RED
CROSS, AND DR W. J. M. EVANS, ODM DEP MEDICAL ADVISER,
FLYING TO LAGO OVER WEEKEND. PREPARED REMAIN FORTNIGHT TO
ASCERTAIN MOST EFFECTIVE WAY UTILIZING MONEY.

2. THOMSON ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT IF TWO PARTIES TO NIGERIAN
CONFLICT WERE TO REQUEST EXTERNAL OBSERVER FORCE AND WERE TO
ASK FOR BRITISH PARTICIPATION IN IT, HMG "WOULD BE READY TO

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 ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, NSA 02, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03,
 NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SA 01, AID 28, RSR 01, /140 W

R 021515Z JUL 68
 FM AMEMBASSY BERN
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1501
 INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS
 AMEMBASSY LONDON
 USMISSION GENEVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BERN 3574

REF: LAGOS 10437 7-20

1. ACCOUNT OF WAHLEN PRESS CONFERENCE CARRIED REFTTEL AGREES WITH ACCOUNTS CARRIED SWISS MEDIA EXCEPT FOR REFERENCE TO READINESS "TO MEDIATE." WE HAVE NO INFORMATION INDICATING WAHLEN MADE SUCH A STATEMENT AND IT SEEMS UNLIKELY THAT HE WOULD DO SO SINCE "MEDIATION" GOES BEYOND WHAT SWISS ARE NORMALLY PREPARED TO UNDERTAKE IN ANY CONFLICT.
2. SWISS FEDERAL COUNCIL, IN ANSWERING PARLIAMENTARY QUERY LAST WEEK, SAID IT HAD LITTLE POSSIBILITY OF INFLUENCING SITUATION IN NIGERIA. IT ADDED IT WOULD OF COURSE BE READY TO OFFER ITS "GOOD OFFICES," IF THIS WERE DESIRED BY THE PARTIES CONCERNED. WAHLEN MAY HAVE CITED THIS FEDERAL COUNCIL STATEMENT AT PRESS CONFERENCE AND, IN SUBSEQUENT TRANSLATION AND REPORTING, REMARK WAS ALTERED TO "MEDIATION."
3. WAHLEN VISITED LONDON IN NO RPT NO OFFICIAL CAPACITY BUT AS MEMBER OF DELEGATION SENT BY SWISS CHURCHES TO EXPRESS TO BRITISH OFFICIALS AND CHURCH LEADERS SWISS CONCERN AT EVENTS IN NIGERIA AND SWISS WILLINGNESS TO HELP IN HUMANITARIAN EFFORTS. THIS LATTER WOULD PRESUMABLY INCLUDE EFFORTS BY PRIVATE SWISS CITIZENS OR PRIVATE SWISS ORGANIZATIONS TO BRING REPRESENTATIVES OF TWO PARTIES

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TOGETHER.

4. THERE HAS BEEN INCREASING ATTENTION TO BIAFRA AMONG SWISS PUBLIC IN LAST FEW WEEKS, WITH NUMEROUS MEETINGS, SMALL DEMONSTRATIONS AND APPEALS FOR FINANCIAL HELP FOR RELIEF SUPPLIES. CAMPAIGN PRIMARILY GEARED TO HUMANITARIAN CONSIDERATIONS, BUT IT IS CLEAR THAT BIAFRANS ENJOY CONSIDERABLE SYMPATHY HERE. THIS PROBABLY DUE TO EFFECTIVE WORK HERE BY SIR FRANCIS IBIAM (BERN 2356) AND TO BIAFRAN PROPAGANDA EFFORTS WHICH, WE HAVE HEARD, ARE BEING DIRECTED FROM AN OFFICE IN GENEVA.
HAYES

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OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

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XR POL 27-14 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
XR POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
XR DEF 12-5 NIGERIA
3 JUL 68 23 54Z
POL 16 BIAFRA

Origin
Index

ACTION: ALL AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS PRIORITY
ALL EUROPEAN DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS "

STATE
INFORM CONSULS

SUBJECT: Nigeria Summary

1. Recent Biafran propaganda efforts abetted by sympathetic press stories have created misleading picture Nigerian situation. Posts may draw on following as appropriate in discussions with host government officials. In this connection, also suggest posts refer to Current Foreign Relations No. 27 of July 3.
2. Nature of War. War basically rooted in tribal animosities, not Muslim Jihad against Christian East. Head of State Gowon and many high-ranking Federal officials Christian. More Christians in rest of Nigeria than in East. Misleading regard war as no more than struggle between Hausa-Fulani dominated Nigeria and Ibos. Minority tribesmen (like Gowon) and Yorubas figure prominently in Federal leadership and military commands. While any casualties tragic, figures frequently used for war dead as over 100,000 highly exaggerated. One British estimate is high of 16,500 killed. 30,000 figure frequently given for killings of Ibos in North 1966 probably closer to 7,000.
3. Military situation. Federal Military Government (FMG) controls about 2/3 Biafra. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ FMG 12-state decree (May 1967) divided former Eastern Region (Biafra) into three new states. FMG now in complete control of new in new Rivers State Southeast State, holds all but one significant town/largely inhabited by non-Ibos.

URGENT 11 JUL 68

Draft
AF/ADM:DFS:mc:7/3/68

Tel. Ext.
2946

Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: AF: THE Quimby

Clearances:
EUR: Mr. Do
EUR: BMI: Mr. Ch

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By MVA Date 10/5/05

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ACTION AID 85

INFO AF 06, IO 03, INR 07, /101 W

R 021513Z JUL 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1336

UNCLAS LAGOS 10470

AIDAC

TOAID 2368

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR INFORMATION RE ABATEX

REFERENCE: AIDTO 1448

1. ABA STILL BEHIND SECESSIONIST LINES.

2. ICRC/LAGOS TEAM REPORTS THEY HAVE NO DIRECT CONTACT WITH ICRC PERSONNEL WORKING BEHIND SECESSIONIST LINES. INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS/SWITZERLAND IS ONLY DIRECT CONTACT WITH ICRC PERSONNEL ON ABA SIDE OF THE LINES.

3. NO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AVAILABLE HERE. WILL SUPPLY WHEN AVAILABLE.
MATHEWS

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, NSA 02, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPMI 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03,

NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SPI 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SRI 01, ORM 03, MC 01,

ACDA 16, E 15, AID 28, SAH 02, RSR 01, 177 W

R 011633Z JUL 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1315
INFO AMEVXASSY BERN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
US MISSION GENEVA 237
AMCONSUL IBADAN
AMCONSUL KADUNA

UNCLAS LAGOS 10437

KAMPALA FOR PALMER

SUBJECT: SHEPHERD AND KORMER SWISS PRESIDENT DISCUSS PLANS
FOR PEACE IN NIGERIA.

1. REUTERS CARRIED STORY DATED LINED BERN JUNE 27 THAT FORMER
SWISS PRESIDENT FRITZ WAHLEN AFTER MEETING WITH LORDI SHEPHERD
SAID "HIS COUNTRY WAS READY TO MEDIATE IN THE NIGERIAN CON-
FLICT IF IT WERE ASKED TO."

2. SWISS CHURCH LEADERS SAID TO BE HOPEFUL THAT NIGERIAN
AND BIAFRAN CHRISTIANS WILL MEET AT WORLD CHURCH ASSEMBLY
WHICH OPENS IN UPPSALA JULY 4.

3. ACCORDING TO REUTERS, WAHLEN SAID SHEPHERD LISTED THREE
STEPS TO PEACE IN NIGERIA (1) OPEN LAND CORRIDOR TO BIAFRA
FOR FOOD AND MEDICAL SUPPLIES, (2) ESTABLISH A CORDON OF
OF COMMONWEALTH TROOPS "FROM COUNTRIES SUCH AS INDIA, GHANA,
AND CANADA," BETWEEN THE OPPOSING SIDES, (3) RESUME THE
PEACE TALKS.

4. LORD SHEPHERD ALSO REPORTEDLY TOLD SWISS CHURCHMEN THAT

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BRITAIN COULD NOT HALT ARMS DELIVERIES "FOR FEAR OF LOSING ITS INFLUENCE IN LAGOS TO SOME OTHER POWER."

5. DAILY TIMES, LAGOS' MOST WIDELY CIRCULATED PAPER CARRIED ABOVE REUTERS STORY ON FRONT PAGE JULY 1 UNDER BANNER "SHEPHERD'S RECIPE FOR PEACE IN NIGERIA."
MATHEWS

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